

Accessible Proof of Standard Monomial Basis for Coordinatization of Schubert Sets of Flags ¹

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Abstract

The main results of this paper are accessible with only basic linear algebra. Given an increasing sequence of dimensions, a flag in a vector space is an increasing sequence of subspaces with those dimensions. The set of all such flags (the flag manifold) can be projectively coordinatized using products of minors of a matrix. These products are indexed by tableaux on a Young diagram. A basis of “standard monomials” for the vector space generated by such projective coordinates over the entire flag manifold has long been known. A Schubert variety is a subset of flags specified by a permutation. Lakshmibai, Musili, and Seshadri gave a standard monomial basis for the smaller vector space generated by the projective coordinates restricted to a Schubert variety. Reiner and Shimozono made this theory more explicit by giving a straightening algorithm for the products of the minors in terms of the right key of a Young tableau. Since then, Willis introduced scanning tableaux as a more direct way to obtain right keys. This paper uses scanning tableaux to give more-direct proofs of the spanning and the linear independence of the standard monomials. In the appendix it is noted that this basis is a weight basis for the dual of a Demazure module for a Borel subgroup of GL_n . This paper contains a complete proof that the characters of these modules (the key polynomials) can be expressed as the sums of the weights for the tableaux used to index the standard monomial bases.

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1. Introduction

The main results of this paper are accessible to anyone who knows basic linear algebra: the Laplace expansion of a determinant is the most advanced linear algebra technique used. Otherwise, the most sophisticated fact needed is that the application of a multivariate polynomial may be moved inside a limit. Readers may replace our field \mathbb{C} with any field of characteristic zero, such as \mathbb{R} .

Let $n \geq 2$ and $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$. Fix $0 < q_1 < q_2 < \cdots < q_k < n$ and let Q denote the set $\{q_1, \dots, q_k\}$. A Q -flag of \mathbb{C}^n is a sequence of subspaces $V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \cdots \subset V_k \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ such that $\dim(V_j) = q_j$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$. The set \mathcal{Fl}_Q of Q -flags has long been studied by geometers. It is known as a *flag manifold (for GL_n)*. Given a fixed sequence of integers $\zeta_1 \geq \zeta_2 \geq \cdots \geq \zeta_m$ with $\zeta_i \in Q$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$, one can form projective coordinates for \mathcal{Fl}_Q as follows: First, any flag can be represented with a sequence of n column vectors of length n . The juxtaposition of these vectors forms an $n \times n$ matrix f . For each $1 \leq i \leq m$, form a left-initial $\zeta_i \times \zeta_i$ minor of f by selecting ζ_i of its n rows. We refer to a product of such minors as a “monomial” for the given ζ_j ’s. Let N be the number of such possible monomials. One can inefficiently coordinatize \mathcal{Fl}_Q in $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^N)$ by evaluating all of these monomials over the flag manifold. The sequence ζ_1, \dots, ζ_m can be viewed as the lengths of the columns of a Young diagram λ . By the 1950s it was known how to use the semistandard Young tableaux on the diagram λ to index an efficient subset of these coordinates; this has been attributed to Young and to Hodge and Pedoe. This subset is a basis of “standard” monomials for the vector space generated by all monomials over the flag manifold. One can group flags into subsets known as *Schubert varieties* using a form of Gaussian elimination on their matrix representatives; these can be indexed by n -permutations. For a given Schubert variety, the coordinatization by the set of monomials indexed by semistandard tableaux is inefficient. Utilizing recent developments in tableau combinatorics, this paper gives a new derivation of a basis of standard monomials for the vector space generated by all monomials restricted to a Schubert variety.

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The most famous flag manifolds are the sets of d -dimensional subspaces of \mathbb{C}^n . These are the cases $k := 1$ and $q_1 := d$ above and are known as the Grassmannians. Here the basis result for Schubert varieties may be readily deduced once it is known for the entire Grassmannian. The next-most studied flag manifold is the “complete” flag manifold, which is the case $k := n - 1$ above.

It was not until the late 1970s that Lakshmibai, Musili, and Seshadri first gave [8] a standard monomial basis for any Schubert variety of a general flag manifold (for GL_n). Their solution used sophisticated geometric methods and was expressed in the language of the representation theory of semisimple Lie groups. In 1990, Lascoux and Schützenberger defined [9] the “right key” of a semistandard tableau. In 1997, Reiner and Shimozono used the notion of right key to give [13] a new derivation of the standard monomial basis for any Schubert variety of the complete flag manifold. They provided a “straightening algorithm” for products of minors that expressed the monomial specified by a given tableau as a linear combination in the standard monomial basis. In 2013, Willis defined [16] the “scanning tableau” of a semistandard tableau and showed that it is the right key of Lascoux and Schützenberger. The scanning tableau appears to be the simplest description of the right key.

We show how scanning tableaux can be used to improve the proofs of [13] for the spanning and the linear independence of the standard monomials. All aspects of our presentation consider all Schubert varieties of all flag manifolds for GL_n , i.e. for any $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$. The statements of our basis theorem, Theorem 3.8, and both its spanning and linear independence parts differ from the analogous statements in [13]: We do not limit ourselves to the $k = n - 1$ complete flag case. Here we use the scanning tableau to determine whether the monomial of a given tableau is a member of our standard basis for a given Schubert variety. In that article, membership is determined by using a “jeu de taquin” procedure to compute the right key of a tableau. The use of scanning tableaux allows for a direct and widely accessible proof of this theorem which is entirely self-contained. As a consequence of our basis theorem, we obtain a weighted tableaux summation expression, Corollary 9.1, that is associated to the vector space at hand. It is the “Demazure polynomial” of [12], or the “key polynomial” of [14] (which is given in terms of right keys). The derivation of this character expression is also self-contained: In particular, the original notion of right key is not needed.

Our spanning proof uses scanning tableaux to give a straightening algorithm in the spirit of [13]. The determinantal identity from [15] used there is also used here; more details are given for its application to the projective coordinates of a Schubert variety. Combinatorialists’ interest in straightening algorithms goes back at least to [5, 4]. Apart from motivation, the spanning proof does not need any mention of Q -flags or Schubert varieties. All of the necessary definitions for the spanning theorem, Theorem 5.3, make sense for matrices with entries from any commutative ring R . The theorem statement itself makes sense over R when “spans” is replaced by “generates as an R -module.” The proof presented in this paper is valid at that level of generality.

Our linear independence proof follows the general inductive strategy used in [8] and [13]. However, the simpler combinatorics of scanning tableaux allow those proofs to be simplified. One simpler aspect is that now only single Schubert varieties need be considered in the induction, rather than the unions of Schubert varieties that arose in the earlier papers. The statement of the linear independence theorem, Theorem 8.1, makes sense over any field. The proof presented here is valid for any field of characteristic zero; we make this assumption to obtain a self-contained development. The related proof in [13] does not need characteristic zero since it refers to a standard fact concerning the closure of a “Bruhat cell.” There it is assumed the base field is algebraically closed, but given [6], they actually do not need that assumption for this fact. Hence the basis results in [13] and here hold over any field. See the appendix for details.

We need a number of well-known facts about Schubert varieties for our linear independence proof. There are references for these facts at varying levels of sophistication for the Grassmannians [11, 7] or the complete flag manifold [10]. However, we have not found a comprehensive source at any level of sophistication. Nor have we found a combination of sources that are accessible to readers without advanced educations in pure mathematics. So we have included elementary proofs of these standard facts for all flag manifolds for GL_n : Sections 2, 3, 6, and 7 of this paper can serve as an accessible introduction to the subject. The appendix provides an interface with the modern literature on flag manifolds and Schubert varieties. Using this appendix, the reader can transition from this paper to the reductive Lie group and representation theory contexts of references such as [11, 7]. There we describe how the standard monomial basis provides a basis of global sections for a certain line bundle on a homogeneous space of GL_n . This is a weight basis for the dual of a Demazure module for a Borel subgroup of GL_n . For coordinatizing Schubert varieties, it is sufficient to consider Young diagrams with columns of length less than n . Such diagrams would also suffice if one were interested only in realizing representations of SL_n . But we allow our Young diagrams to have columns of length n so that we can realize all of the irreducible polynomial representations of GL_n in the appendix.

Combinatorial tools are introduced in Section 2. Section 3 presents the definitions of flag varieties, Schubert varieties, and their projective coordinates. Our main theorem, Theorem 3.8, is motivated and

stated there. Sections 4 and 5 prove the spanning parts of Theorems 3.6 and 3.8. Sections 6 and 7 present the facts needed to projectively coordinatize Schubert varieties. Section 8 proves the linear independence parts of Theorems 3.6 and 3.8. Section 9 presents the Demazure polynomial summation. Section 10 is the appendix of contemporary terminology.

2. Combinatorial tools

The needed combinatorial tools are “ Q -chains”, which we use to index Schubert varieties, and “tabloids”, which we use to index some projective coordinates for flag manifolds.

Fix $n \geq 2$ and a nonempty subset $Q \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ throughout the paper. Set $k := |Q|$ and index the elements of Q in increasing order: $1 \leq q_1 < q_2 < \dots < q_k < n =: q_{k+1}$. Define $[n] := \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. A Q -chain is a sequence of subsets $P_1 \subset P_2 \subset \dots \subset P_k \subseteq [n]$ such that $|P_j| = q_j$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$.

An n -partition is an n -tuple $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$ satisfying $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0 =: \lambda_{n+1}$. Fix an n -partition λ . The *shape* of λ , also denoted λ , is an array of n rows of boxes that has λ_r boxes in row r . The column lengths of the shape λ are denoted $n \geq \zeta_1 \geq \dots \geq \zeta_{\lambda_1}$. Denote the set of distinct column lengths of λ that are less than n by $Q(\lambda)$. Refer to a location in λ with column index $1 \leq c \leq \lambda_1$ and row index $1 \leq r \leq \zeta_c$ by (r, c) . Sets of locations in λ are called *regions*. A *tabloid* T of shape λ is a filling of the shape λ with values from $[n]$ such that the values strictly increase down each column. The value of T at location (r, c) is denoted $T(r, c)$. Partially order the tabloids of shape λ by defining $T \preceq U$ if $T(r, c) \leq U(r, c)$ for all locations $(r, c) \in \lambda$. We use the term *column tabloid* to refer to a tabloid of shape 1^d for some *length* $d \leq n$. Given a subset $P \subseteq [n]$, define $Y(P)$ to be the column tabloid of length $|P|$ filled with the values of P in increasing order. There is a unique column tabloid of length n , namely $Y([n])$. A (*semistandard Young*) *tableau* is a tabloid whose values weakly increase across each row. In Theorem 3.6 we use tableaux to index the standard monomial basis for a flag manifold.

Given a Q -chain $\pi = (P_1, \dots, P_k)$, its *key* $Y(\pi)$ is the tabloid whose shape has one column each of the lengths q_k, q_{k-1}, \dots, q_1 and which is obtained by juxtaposing the columns $Y(P_k), Y(P_{k-1}), \dots, Y(P_1)$. It can be seen that $Y(\pi)$ is a tableau. The *Bruhat order* on Q -chains is the following partial order: For two Q -chains ρ and π , define $\rho \preceq \pi$ if $Y(\rho) \preceq Y(\pi)$. The Q -carrels for an n -tuple are the following $k+1$ sets of positions: the first q_1 positions, the next $q_2 - q_1$ positions, and so on through the last $n - q_k$ positions. To each Q -chain π , we associate the permutation $\bar{\pi}$ of $[n]$: In n -tuple form, the Q -carrels of $\bar{\pi}$ respectively display the elements of the $k+1$ sets $P_1, P_2 \setminus P_1, \dots, P_k \setminus P_{k-1}, [n] \setminus P_k$, with the elements of each set listed in increasing order. A Q -permutation is a permutation of $[n]$ in n -tuple form such that the values within each Q -carrel increase from left to right. It is easy to see that the creation of $\bar{\pi}$ describes a bijection from the set of Q -chains to the set of Q -permutations.

For $1 \leq i < j \leq n$, define the *reflection* σ_{ij} to be the following operator on Q -chains: Let $\pi = (P_1, \dots, P_k)$ be a Q -chain. For $1 \leq \ell \leq k$, form the following sets: If $i \in P_\ell$ and $j \notin P_\ell$, set $P'_\ell := (P_\ell \setminus \{i\}) \cup \{j\}$. If $j \in P_\ell$ and $i \notin P_\ell$, set $P'_\ell := (P_\ell \setminus \{j\}) \cup \{i\}$. Otherwise, set $P'_\ell := P_\ell$. It can be seen that $P'_1 \subset \dots \subset P'_k$; this is the Q -chain $\sigma_{ij}\pi$. If there exists $1 \leq \ell \leq k$ such that $j \in P_\ell$ and $i \notin P_\ell$, then $Y(\sigma_{ij}\pi)$ is produced from $Y(\pi)$ by decreasing some values from j to i (and sorting the resulting columns), so $\sigma_{ij}\pi \prec \pi$.

The following lemma says that we can find a reflection to step down in the Bruhat order between two Q -chains:

Lemma 2.1. *Let ρ, π be Q -chains. If $\rho \prec \pi$, then there exists $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ such that $\rho \preceq \sigma_{ij}\pi \prec \pi$.*

Proof. Write $\rho = (R_1, \dots, R_k)$ and $\pi = (P_1, \dots, P_k)$. Find the rightmost column where the keys $Y(\rho)$ and $Y(\pi)$ differ: these columns are $Y(R_h)$ and $Y(P_h)$ respectively for some $1 \leq h \leq k$. Find the minimal $i \in R_h \setminus P_h$ and the minimal $j \in P_h \setminus R_h$. Since $Y(R_h) \prec Y(P_h)$, we have $i < j$. Form the Q -chain $\sigma_{ij}\pi = (P'_1, \dots, P'_k)$. By the above remark $\sigma_{ij}\pi \prec \pi$.

We verify that $\rho \preceq \sigma_{ij}\pi$: For the values of $1 \leq \ell \leq k$ such that $P'_\ell = P_\ell$, we have $Y(R_\ell) \preceq Y(P_\ell) = Y(P'_\ell)$. For the other values of ℓ , we have $P'_\ell = (P_\ell \setminus \{j\}) \cup \{i\}$. Let $1 \leq p \leq q_\ell$ denote the row index of the value j in $Y(P_\ell)$. In the rows below row p the value in $Y(P'_\ell)$ is the same as the value in $Y(P_\ell)$ since these are the values of P'_ℓ and P_ℓ which are greater than j . So here the value in $Y(R_\ell)$ is at most the value in $Y(P'_\ell)$. For rows at and above row p , the value in $Y(R_\ell)$ is at most the value in $Y(P'_\ell)$ since R_ℓ contains all of the p values of P'_ℓ which are less than j . \square

Fix an n -partition λ with $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$. For $1 \leq \ell \leq k$, the number of columns of length q_ℓ in λ is $\lambda_{q_\ell} - \lambda_{q_{\ell+1}}$. The number of columns of length n in λ is λ_n . Given a Q -chain $\pi = (P_1, \dots, P_k)$, its λ -key is the tableau $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ of shape λ obtained by juxtaposing λ_n copies of the column $Y([n])$, $\lambda_{q_k} - \lambda_{q_{k+1}}$ copies of the column $Y(P_k)$, $\lambda_{q_{k-1}} - \lambda_{q_k}$ copies of the column $Y(P_{k-1})$, \dots and $\lambda_{q_1} - \lambda_{q_2}$ copies of the column $Y(P_1)$.

Lemma 2.2. *Let ρ, π be Q -chains. If $\rho \preceq \pi$, then $Y_\lambda(\rho) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$. When $Q(\lambda) = Q$ the converse holds: if $Y_\lambda(\rho) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$, then $\rho \preceq \pi$.*

Proof. Every column of length n is $Y([n])$, and every column of $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ of length less than n appears in $Y(\pi)$. When $Q(\lambda) = Q$, every column of $Y(\pi)$ also appears in $Y_\lambda(\pi)$. \square

We now describe the scanning algorithm of [16]. Fix a sequence (b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots) . Define its *earliest weakly increasing subsequence* (EWIS) to be the subsequence $(b_{i_1}, b_{i_2}, b_{i_3}, \dots)$, where $i_1 = 1$ and for $j > 1$ the index i_j is the smallest index such that $b_{i_j} \geq b_{i_{j-1}}$. For any tableau T of shape λ , construct its *scanning tableau* $S(T)$ as follows: Begin with an empty shape λ . Form the sequence of the bottom-most values of the columns of T from left to right. Find the EWIS of this sequence. When a value is added to the EWIS, mark its location in T . The sequence of locations just marked is called a *scanning path*. Fill the lowest available location of the leftmost available column of $S(T)$ with the last member of the EWIS. Iterate this process as if the marked locations are no longer part of T . Using the row condition on the filling of T , it can be seen that at each stage the unmarked locations form the shape of some n -partition. This implies that every location in T is marked once the leftmost column of $S(T)$ has been filled. To find the values of the next column of $S(T)$:

1. Ignore the leftmost column of T and λ .
2. Remove the marks from the remaining locations.
3. Repeat the above process.

Continue until the shape has been completely filled with values: this is the scanning tableau $S(T)$ of T . For a location $(r, c) \in \lambda$, let $P(T; r, c)$ denote the scanning path found to fill location (r, c) of $S(T)$.

We need four lemmas concerning the scanning tableau $S(T)$ of a tableau T of shape λ . Only the first is needed to prove Theorem 5.3, the main spanning theorem. The other three along with Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2 are used in Sections 7 and 8.

Lemma 2.3. *Let $1 \leq c \leq \lambda_1$ and $1 \leq r \leq \zeta_c - 1$. For any location (p, b) in the scanning path $P(T; r, c)$, there exists a location (u, v) in the previous scanning path $P(T; r + 1, c)$ such that $v \leq b$ and $T(u, v) > T(p, b)$.*

Proof. Since the scanning algorithm is defined recursively for column bottoms, we may reduce to the case that $(r + 1, c)$ is a column bottom of T .

First, suppose (p, b) is a column bottom of T . The location (p, b) is not in $P(T; r + 1, c)$, but it does belong to the sequence of column bottoms of T which is scanned to form $P(T; r + 1, c)$. Hence its value $T(p, b)$ was not in that previous earliest weakly increasing subsequence. Therefore there is a column bottom (u, v) of T in the scanning path $P(T; r + 1, c)$ strictly to the left of (p, b) such that $T(u, v) > T(p, b)$.

Now suppose (p, b) is not a column bottom of T . Since (p, b) is scanned in the formation of $P(T; r, c)$, the location $(p + 1, b)$ was marked as part of the previous scanning path $P(T; r + 1, c)$. By the column strict condition on tabloids, its value satisfies $T(p + 1, b) > T(p, b)$. Take $u := p + 1$ and $v := b$. \square

Lemma 2.4. *Every value in the rightmost column of T appears in every column of $S(T)$. In particular, the rightmost column of $S(T)$ is the rightmost column of T .*

Proof. Fix a column index $1 \leq c \leq \lambda_1$. As was noted above, every location in T to the right of column c is marked in the construction of column c of $S(T)$. So every location in the rightmost column of T belongs to a scanning path $P(T; r, c)$ for some $1 \leq r \leq \zeta_c$. These locations must be the end of their respective scanning paths. \square

Let λ' denote the partition obtained from λ by omitting the rightmost column of its shape. Given a tableau T of shape λ , let T' denote the tabloid of shape λ' obtained by omitting the rightmost column of T .

Lemma 2.5. *Deleting the rightmost column both before and after forming the scanning tableau, we find that $S(T') \preceq [S(T)]'$.*

Proof. Let $(r, c) \in \lambda'$. In the two applications of the scanning algorithm, the same locations are marked and removed from within the region $\lambda' \subset \lambda$ of T as are from T' . So the scanning path $P(T; r, c)$ is the path $P(T'; r, c)$ with at most one location appended from the rightmost column of T . Since the values within a scanning path weakly increase, the value at the end of $P(T'; r, c)$ is less than or equal to the value at the end of $P(T; r, c)$. The value at location (r, c) in $S(T')$ is the value at the end of $P(T'; r, c)$, and the value at (r, c) in $S(T)$ is the value at the end of $P(T; r, c)$. \square

Now we fix a Q -chain π . Form its λ -key $Y_\lambda(\pi)$. In this π -specific environment, the notion of tableau is more complicated:

Definition 2.6. A tableau T of shape λ is π -Demazure if its scanning tableau satisfies $S(T) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$.

In Theorem 3.8 we use π -Demazure tableaux to index the standard monomial basis for the Schubert variety indexed by π .

Lemma 2.7. If a tableau T of shape λ is π -Demazure, then the tableau T' of shape λ' is π -Demazure.

Proof. By the previous lemma, we have $S(T') \preceq [S(T)]' \preceq [Y_\lambda(\pi)]' = Y_{\lambda'}(\pi)$. \square

3. Flags of subspaces and tabloid monomials

We now introduce the main objects of the paper: flags of subspaces, Bruhat cells, Schubert varieties, and tabloid monomials. For Sections 4 and 5, only the definitions concerning tabloid monomials are needed. Along the way we mention five facts about these structures for motivation which are formally stated and proved in Sections 6 and 7. Our main result, Theorem 3.8, is stated at the end of this section.

Definition 3.1. A Q -flag of \mathbb{C}^n is a sequence of subspaces $V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \cdots \subset V_k \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ such that $\dim(V_j) = q_j$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$.

We denote the set of Q -flags in \mathbb{C}^n by $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$. An ordered basis (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) of column vectors for \mathbb{C}^n is presented in this paper as the $n \times n$ invertible matrix $[v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n]$ whose columns from left to right are v_1, \dots, v_n . Define a map Φ_Q from the ordered bases for \mathbb{C}^n to $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ by sending an ordered basis $f := [v_1, \dots, v_n]$ to the Q -flag $\Phi_Q(f)$ of subspaces $V_j = \text{span}(\{v_i | i \leq q_j\})$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$. Any Q -flag can be represented in this way by many ordered bases. Special Q -flags can be made using the axis basis vectors e_1, \dots, e_n for \mathbb{C}^n : For each Q -chain $\pi = (P_1, P_2, \dots, P_k)$, construct the Q -chain flag $\varphi(\pi)$ of subspaces $V_j := \text{span}(\{e_i | i \in P_j\})$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$. Given a Q -chain π , form the Q -permutation $\bar{\pi}$ as in Section 2. Define the $n \times n$ matrix s_π to be the permutation matrix whose $(\bar{\pi}_j, j)$ entry is 1 for $1 \leq j \leq n$. It is clear that $\varphi(\pi) = \Phi_Q(s_\pi)$, when s_π is viewed as an ordered basis.

Let B denote the subgroup of upper triangular matrices within GL_n , the group of invertible matrices.

Definition 3.2. Let π be a Q -chain. The *Bruhat cell* $C(\pi)$ is the set $\{\Phi_Q(bs_\pi) | b \in B\}$ of Q -flags which can be produced from the ordered basis s_π for the Q -chain flag $\varphi(\pi)$ with the action of the upper triangular matrices.

We will see (Fact 6.7) that every Q -flag belongs to a unique Bruhat cell. The following disjoint unions of Bruhat cells are important subsets of $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$:

Definition 3.3. Let π be a Q -chain. We define the *Schubert variety* $X(\pi)$ to be the union of cells $\bigsqcup_{\rho \preceq \pi} C(\rho)$.

Our goal is to develop a coordinatization of $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$. Recall that projective space $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ is the set of lines through the origin in \mathbb{C}^n ; hence it is the set $\mathcal{F}\ell_{\{1\}}$ of $\{1\}$ -flags. The set $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ does not have global coordinates in the usual (affine) sense. But it can be coordinatized by *projective coordinates*: A point $L \in \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ is indexed by an equivalence class $[(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)]$ of n -tuples, where $(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ is a nonzero point on the line L and two n -tuples (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) and $(p'_1, p'_2, \dots, p'_n)$ are equivalent if there is a nonzero $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) = (\alpha p'_1, \alpha p'_2, \dots, \alpha p'_n)$.

From now on, fix an n -partition λ such that $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$. Now we begin to form projective coordinates for $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ from tabloids of shape λ . Let $\mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$ denote the ring of polynomials in the n^2 coordinates of a sequence of n vectors from \mathbb{C}^n . Fix $1 \leq p \leq n$. Let f be an $n \times n$ matrix. For any $1 \leq q \leq n$, define the q -initial submatrix of f with rows r_1, \dots, r_p to be the $p \times q$ matrix whose i^{th} row consists of the first q entries of the r_i^{th} row of f . When $p = q$, in $\mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$ we form for f its q -initial minor with rows r_1, \dots, r_q : this is the determinant of its q -initial submatrix with rows r_1, \dots, r_q .

Definition 3.4. Let T be a tabloid of shape λ . For each column index $1 \leq c \leq \lambda_1$, form in $\mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$ the ζ_c -initial minor with indices $T(1, c), \dots, T(\zeta_c, c)$. The *monomial* of T , denoted by the corresponding Greek letter τ , is the product of these minors. Let π be a Q -chain. In particular, the monomial of the λ -key $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ is denoted $\psi_\lambda(\pi)$.

Let F be a Q -flag. We will see (Lemma 7.1) that the sequence of the valuations of all tabloid monomials of shape λ on the ordered bases for F is projectively well defined: Varying the choice of basis f such that $\Phi_Q(f) = F$ will scale all these values equally. We will also see (Fact 7.6) that when $Q(\lambda) = Q$, this sequence of monomials give a faithful projective coordinatization of the set $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ of Q -flags.

Definition 3.5. Let Γ_λ denote the vector subspace of polynomials in $\mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$ that are linear combinations of the tabloid monomials of shape λ .

While it is useful to consider the set of all tabloid monomials, the following long-known result shows that that set is much larger than is needed to span Γ_λ :

Theorem 3.6. *Let λ be an n -partition. The monomials of the semistandard tableaux of shape λ form a basis of the vector space Γ_λ .*

Such monomials are called *tableau monomials*. The spanning and linear independence parts of this basis theorem are reproved here as Theorem 4.6 and Corollary 8.2. This theorem implies that when $Q(\lambda) = Q$, the sequence of tableau monomials gives an efficient coordinatization of $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$.

Now we return to having a Q -chain π fixed, as at the end of Section 2. Again form its λ -key $Y_\lambda(\pi)$. Define the subspace $Z_\lambda(\pi) \subseteq \Gamma_\lambda$ to be the span of the monomials of tabloids T such that $T \not\leq Y_\lambda(\pi)$.

Definition 3.7. Let π be a Q -chain. The *Demazure quotient* for π is the vector space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi) := \Gamma_\lambda / Z_\lambda(\pi)$.

We will see (Lemma 7.3) that all tabloid monomials in $Z_\lambda(\pi)$ are zero on the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$. If moreover $Q(\lambda) = Q$, then $X(\pi)$ is the zero set in $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ of $Z_\lambda(\pi)$ (Fact 7.5). Hence we consider $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$ to be the span of the restrictions of the tabloid monomials to $X(\pi)$. We simply write “monomial” to refer to the residue of a monomial in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$. Since the set of tableau monomials is now much larger than is needed to span $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$, we need an analog of Theorem 3.6 for the space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$. Our main result is a new proof of the following theorem that is based on the scanning tableaux $S(T)$:

Theorem 3.8. *Fix a nonempty $Q \subseteq [n-1]$. Let λ be an n -partition such that $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$ and let π be a Q -chain. The monomials of the π -Demazure tableaux of shape λ form a basis of the vector space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$.*

Such monomials are called π -Demazure monomials. The spanning and linear independence parts of this basis theorem are Theorem 5.3 and Theorem 8.1. This theorem implies that when $Q(\lambda) = Q$, the sequence of π -Demazure monomials gives an efficient coordinatization of the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$ of $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$.

4. Tableau monomials span Γ_λ

Before we prove the spanning part of our main result, Theorem 3.8, in the next section, we must first prove the spanning of Γ_λ by tableau monomials in Theorem 3.6. We begin by presenting a translation of a classical determinantal identity into the language of tabloid monomials. This is a “master” identity that we use in two ways to prove the two spanning results by establishing relations amongst certain monomials. The idea of both proofs is the same: Using a total order on the set of tabloids, we provide straightening algorithms for applying the master identity. Each use of the identity progresses in the same direction under this order. The control afforded by the total order implies the termination of the algorithm. This is a common strategy; it was also used in [13].

Fix an n -partition λ ; the sets Q and $Q(\lambda)$ play no role in this section. Fix a tabloid T of shape λ and a region $\mu \subseteq \lambda$. The region μ selects which locations are “active” in the master identity. The multiset of values of T within μ is denoted $T(\mu)$. For $1 \leq j \leq \lambda_1$, let T_j denote column j of T and let μ_j denote the intersection of μ with column j of λ . Let $\bar{\mu}$ denote the region of λ complementary to μ .

Definition 4.1. A μ -shuffle of T is a permutation of the values of T that can be obtained by the composition of two permutations as follows: First permute the values within the region μ such that the values within a given column are distinct. Then sort the values within each column into ascending order to obtain a tabloid.

Given a μ -shuffle σ of T , the resulting tabloid is denoted T_σ and its monomial is denoted τ_σ . Let $\epsilon(\sigma)$ denote the sign of σ as a permutation. For a tabloid T with repeated values, it is possible that for μ -shuffles $\sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2$ of T we have $T_{\sigma_1} = T_{\sigma_2}$.

We prepare to construct a square compound matrix $M_\mu(T)$ based on T and μ . Let g be the $n \times n$ matrix (x_{ij}) of n^2 indeterminants. First we split each of the initial square submatrices whose minors in g form the monomial τ of T into two rectangular parts: For each $1 \leq j \leq \lambda_1$ form the $\zeta_j \times |\mu_j|$ “active” matrix A_j by transposing the ζ_j -initial submatrix of g whose rows are specified by the values of $T_j(\mu)$. Also form the $\zeta_j \times |\bar{\mu}_j|$ “inactive” matrix N_j by transposing the ζ_j -initial submatrix of g similarly specified by the values of $T_j(\bar{\mu})$. The total number of columns in A_j and N_j is $|\mu_j| + |\bar{\mu}_j| = \zeta_j$. Let $A_j \sqcup N_j$ denote the $\zeta_j \times \zeta_j$ concatenation of the matrices A_j and N_j . Except for the order of its columns, the matrix $A_j \sqcup N_j$ is the transpose of the ζ_j -initial submatrix specified by the column T_j . So its determinant is the monomial τ_j of T_j , up to a sign. These $\zeta_j \times \zeta_j$ matrices form the main diagonal blocks of the compound matrix $M_\mu(T)$.

Now in addition let $1 \leq i \leq \lambda_1$. Form the rectangular matrix $A_j^{<i>}$ by transposing the ζ_i -initial submatrix of g whose rows are specified by the values of $T_j(\mu)$. Then let $A_j^{<i>} \sqcup 0$ denote the $\zeta_i \times \zeta_j$ concatenation of the matrix $A_j^{<i>}$ with a $\zeta_i \times |\bar{\mu}_j|$ zero matrix. These $\zeta_i \times \zeta_j$ matrices form the off-diagonal blocks of the compound matrix $M_\mu(T)$.

Define the matrix $M_\mu(T)$ to be the $(\zeta_1 + \cdots + \zeta_{\lambda_1})$ -square compound matrix whose j^{th} diagonal block is $A_j^{<j>} \sqcup N_j$ and whose non-diagonal block in the (i, j) block position is $A_j^{<i>} \sqcup 0$:

$$M_\mu(T) := \begin{bmatrix} A_1^{<1>} \sqcup N_1 & A_2^{<1>} \sqcup 0 & \cdots & A_{\lambda_1}^{<1>} \sqcup 0 \\ A_1^{<2>} \sqcup 0 & A_2^{<2>} \sqcup N_2 & \cdots & A_{\lambda_1}^{<2>} \sqcup 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_1^{<\lambda_1>} \sqcup 0 & A_2^{<\lambda_1>} \sqcup 0 & \cdots & A_{\lambda_1}^{<\lambda_1>} \sqcup N_{\lambda_1} \end{bmatrix}$$

The following lemma is our master identity. It says that $|M_\mu(T)|$ is a polynomial in Γ_λ . It is the translation hinted at by Reiner and Shimozono of the left side of the determinantal identity (III.11) in [15] that they use as the left side of equation (5.3) in [13]. Note that the product of the determinants of the diagonal blocks of $M_\mu(T)$ is the monomial τ , up to a sign. This sign is the sign ambiguity in the statement of the lemma. This ambiguity vanishes in our applications.

Lemma 4.2. *Let T be a tabloid of shape λ and let $\mu \subseteq \lambda$. The determinant $|M_\mu(T)|$ is, up to sign, the signed sum of monomials $\sum \epsilon(\sigma)\tau_\sigma$, where the sum runs over all μ -shuffles σ of T .*

Proof. We calculate $|M_\mu(T)|$ by an iterated Laplace expansion process. We then show that the nonzero terms in this expansion correspond to the μ -shuffles of T . Begin to calculate $|M_\mu(T)|$ by Laplace expansion on the first ζ_1 rows, which form the first row of blocks. This expresses the determinant as the sum of the products of $\zeta_1 \times \zeta_1$ “primary” minors and $(\zeta_2 + \cdots + \zeta_{\lambda_1})$ -square “complementary” minors.

Most of the products in this sum vanish because one of the two minors has a zero column or because the primary minor has repeated columns. Fix a summand that does not vanish for either of these reasons. Since the complementary minor at hand cannot have a zero column, its primary minor must include all of the columns of N_1 . The primary minor’s other columns come from various $A_j^{<1>}$ blocks. Recall that the columns of N_1 are the initial segments of the rows of g indexed by the values of $T_1(\bar{\mu})$ and that the columns of $A_j^{<1>}$ are the initial segments of the rows of g indexed by the values of $T_j(\mu)$. Because the primary minor does not have repeated columns, the values of $T_1(\bar{\mu})$ and those of $T(\mu)$ that correspond to the columns of the $A_j^{<1>}$ blocks that contribute to the primary minor are distinct. Therefore we may define a column tabloid U_1 of length ζ_1 that is filled with all the values of $T_1(\bar{\mu})$ together with these values from $T(\mu)$. Except for the order of its columns, the primary minor is the determinant of the ζ_1 -initial submatrix specified by the column U_1 . So this primary minor is the monomial v_1 of U_1 , up to a sign.

Now consider the complementary minor of our fixed summand. Begin the next iteration by computing this determinant by Laplace expansion on its first ζ_2 rows, which form its first row of blocks. Fix a summand as above. Analogously define a column tabloid U_2 of length ζ_2 filled with all the values of $T_2(\bar{\mu})$ and the values of $T(\mu)$ corresponding to this new primary minor. Again this primary minor is the monomial v_2 of U_2 , up to a sign. Note that the values of $T(\mu)$ used here come from different locations within μ than those in the first iteration.

Continue iterating this Laplace expansion process. In the end, we find that our fixed nonzero term is the product $v_1 \cdots v_{\lambda_1}$, up to a sign. This is the monomial v of the tabloid U of shape λ that is formed by the juxtaposition of the column tabloids $U_1, \dots, U_{\lambda_1}$. The value from each location of T was used exactly once to construct U . Hence, the tabloid U was formed by a permutation σ of the values of T . Express σ as a composition of the following two permutations: First permute the values within μ so that the values used from $T(\mu)$ for U_i appear in the i^{th} column. As noted earlier, the values within each column are distinct. Then sort each column to obtain the tabloid U . Hence the permutation σ is actually a μ -shuffle of T . Therefore each nonzero term of this iterated Laplace expansion is the monomial τ_σ for a μ -shuffle σ of T , up to a sign. The sign is the product of the signs from the Laplace expansion process and the signs from presenting each $\zeta_i \times \zeta_i$ minor as the monomial of a column tabloid. If the sign of the diagonal term $|A_1^{<1>} \sqcup N_1| \cdots |A_{\lambda_1}^{<\lambda_1>} \sqcup N_{\lambda_1}|$ of this expansion agrees with the sign of the monomial τ of the identity μ -shuffle of T , then for each μ -shuffle σ of T the sign of the τ_σ term is $\epsilon(\sigma)$. Otherwise the diagonal term is $-\tau$; then the sign of each τ_σ term is $-\epsilon(\sigma)$.

It is clear that the μ -shuffles of T associated to any two nonzero terms are distinct. It is also true that every μ -shuffle of T is associated to one of these terms: Fix a μ -shuffle σ of T . At step i in the iterated Laplace expansion, choose the primary minor to consist of the block N_i together with the columns from the $A_j^{<i>}$ blocks that correspond to the values of $T(\mu)$ that σ moves to column i of T . \square

We will choose regions μ based on the tabloid T such that we can show $|M_\mu(T)| = 0$. Here the sign ambiguity vanishes, and Lemma 4.2 produces relations among the tabloid monomials. The choice of μ below yields a well-known “Plücker relation”. The presentation of this rederivation prepares the reader for the proof of the new Proposition 5.1.

Proposition 4.3. *Let T be a tabloid of shape λ . Let $1 \leq c \leq \lambda_1 - 1$ and $1 \leq r \leq \zeta_{c+1}$. Let $\mu \subseteq \lambda$ be the region $\{(i, c) | r \leq i \leq \zeta_c\} \cup \{(j, c+1) | 1 \leq j \leq r\}$. Then $\sum \epsilon(\sigma) \tau_\sigma = 0$, where the sum runs over the μ -shuffles σ of T .*

Proof. Construct the matrix $M_\mu(T)$ as above. By Lemma 4.2, it is sufficient show that $|M_\mu(T)| = 0$. Since μ only has two columns, indexed c and $c+1$, the blocks $A_j^{<i>}$ within $M_\mu(T)$ are empty for $j \neq c$ or $c+1$. Hence the determinant $|M_\mu(T)|$ simplifies to $\tau_1 \dots \tau_{c-1} \det(*) \tau_{c+2} \dots \tau_{\lambda_1}$, where $*$ is the $(\zeta_c + \zeta_{c+1})$ -square matrix $\begin{bmatrix} A_c^{<c>} \sqcup N_c & A_{c+1}^{<c>} \sqcup 0 \\ A_c^{<c+1>} \sqcup 0 & A_{c+1}^{<c+1>} \sqcup N_{c+1} \end{bmatrix}$.

Note that $\zeta_c \geq \zeta_{c+1}$. Subtract the first ζ_{c+1} rows of the matrix $*$ from its last ζ_{c+1} rows to get the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} A_c^{<c>} \sqcup N_c & A_{c+1}^{<c>} \sqcup 0 \\ 0 \sqcup -N_c^{<c+1>} & 0 \sqcup N_{c+1} \end{bmatrix}$, where $N_c^{<c+1>}$ is the submatrix of N_c formed by its first ζ_{c+1} rows. The determinant is unchanged. The $|\mu| = \zeta_c + 1$ columns $\begin{bmatrix} A_c^{<c>} & A_{c+1}^{<c>} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ have only ζ_c nonzero rows. \square

Let U and T be column tabloids of the same length. If the string of values of U read from top to bottom precedes the string of values of T in lexicographic order, then we define $U \leq T$. Let U and T be two tabloids of shape λ . If the string of columns of U read left to right precedes the string of columns of T in lexicographic order, then we define $U \leq T$. This is a total order; it extends the partial order \preceq of Section 2.

Our goal is to re-express the monomial of any tabloid T which is not a tableau in terms of monomials of tabloids $U < T$. The following easy lemma is the first step.

Lemma 4.4. *Let T be a tabloid of shape λ . Let U be the tabloid obtained by sorting the columns of T of a given length in ascending order according to the total order \leq . Then $U \leq T$, and these tabloids have the same monomial.*

The relations given by Proposition 4.3 are sufficient for the following:

Proposition 4.5. *Let T be a tabloid of shape λ which is not a tableau. Then there exist coefficients $a_U = \pm 1$ such that $\tau = \sum a_U v$, where the sum is over some tabloids U such that $U < T$.*

Proof. If T does not already have its columns sorted by the total order, apply Lemma 4.4 to get $\tau = v$ where v is the monomial of a tabloid $U < T$.

Now suppose T has sorted columns. Since T is not a tableau, there exists a location $(r, c) \in \lambda$ such that $T(r, c) > T(r, c+1)$. With this c and r , take μ as in Proposition 4.3. Then the relation $\sum \epsilon(\sigma) \tau_\sigma = 0$ holds, where the sum runs over all μ -shuffles of T . We can solve for $\tau = \tau_{id}$ to obtain $\tau = -\sum \epsilon(\sigma) \tau_\sigma$, where the sum now runs over all non-identity μ -shuffles of T .

Consider a non-identity μ -shuffle σ of T . We show $T_\sigma < T$. By the column filling property of tabloids and our choice of μ , every value in $T_c(\mu)$ is larger than every value in $T_{c+1}(\mu)$. Since $\sigma \neq id$, it replaces some value in $T_c(\mu)$ with a value from $T_{c+1}(\mu)$ and then sorts column c . Then in the highest location of column c in which T and T_σ differ, the smaller value is in T_σ . Therefore column c of T_σ precedes T_c in the total order, while all columns to its left are unchanged. Thus $T_\sigma < T$.

Since μ does not have repeated values, each tabloid T_σ is distinct. Therefore when we sum over tabloids instead of μ -shuffles of T , the coefficients of the monomials remain ± 1 . \square

We are ready to prove the spanning part of Theorem 3.6. Elements of this proof reappear in the spanning proof for Theorem 3.8.

Theorem 4.6. *Let λ be an n -partition. The monomials of the semistandard tableaux of shape λ span the vector space Γ_λ .*

Proof. The space Γ_λ was defined to be the span of all tabloid monomials. Given a tabloid U , we show that its monomial v is in the span of the tableau monomials. Suppose that U is not already a tableau.

Apply Proposition 4.5 to express v as a linear combination of monomials of tabloids preceding U . If any of these tabloids is not a tableau, apply Proposition 4.5 to the largest among them according to the total order \leq and iterate this step. After each iteration, the largest tabloid which is not a tableau that appears precedes that of the previous iteration. Since there are finitely many tabloids of shape λ , this process must terminate. When the process terminates, we have an expression for v as a linear combination of tableau monomials. \square

5. Demazure monomials span the Demazure quotient

This section is a continuation of Section 4. Returning to the context at the end of Section 3, again fix an n -partition λ with $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$ and a Q -chain π . By Theorem 4.6, the space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi) := \Gamma_\lambda / Z_\lambda(\pi)$ is spanned by the residues of tableau monomials. Here we re-express the (residue) monomial in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$ of any tableau which is not π -Demazure by choosing an appropriate region μ for an application of Lemma 4.2. We write a bar over a polynomial of Γ_λ to indicate its residue in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$. Proposition 5.1, Proposition 5.2, and Theorem 5.3 are respectively analogous to Proposition 4.3, Proposition 4.5, and Theorem 4.6.

If a tableau T is not π -Demazure, then there exists a location $(r, c) \in \lambda$ such that $S(T)[r, c] > Y_\lambda(\pi)[r, c]$. Our region μ will consist of locations that are associated to each of the locations $(r, c), (r+1, c), \dots, (\zeta_c, c)$ in column c : These $\zeta_c - r + 1$ other locations will be indexed by $r, r+1, \dots, \zeta_c$. The last value of the scanning path $P(T; r, c)$ is $S(T)[r, c]$. Define (p_r, b_r) to be the location of the first value in the path $P(T; r, c)$ which is larger than $Y_\lambda(\pi)[r, c]$. If (r, c) is a column bottom, then take μ to be the region $\{(p_r, b_r)\}$. Otherwise do the following: By Lemma 2.3, there exists at least one location (u, v) in $P(T; r+1, c)$ such that $u \leq b_r$ and $T(u, v) > T(p_r, b_r)$. Define (p_{r+1}, b_{r+1}) to be the first such location in $P(T; r+1, c)$. Continue in this fashion until $(p_{\zeta_c}, b_{\zeta_c})$ in $P(T; \zeta_c, c)$ has been defined: we have found locations $(p_r, b_r), (p_{r+1}, b_{r+1}), \dots, (p_{\zeta_c}, b_{\zeta_c})$ with $b_r \geq b_{r+1} \geq \dots \geq b_{\zeta_c} \geq c$ and $Y_\lambda(\pi; r, c) < T(p_r, b_r) < T(p_{r+1}, b_{r+1}) < \dots < T(p_{\zeta_c}, b_{\zeta_c})$. Take μ to be the region $\{(p_r, b_r), \dots, (p_{\zeta_c}, b_{\zeta_c})\}$.

Proposition 5.1. *Let π be a Q -chain. Let T be a tableau of shape λ which is not π -Demazure. Let $\mu \subseteq \lambda$ be the region just defined. Then $\sum \epsilon(\sigma) \overline{\tau}_\sigma = 0$ in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$, where the sum runs over the μ -shuffles σ of T .*

Proof. Construct the matrix $M_\mu(T)$ as in Section 4. By Lemma 4.2, it is sufficient show $\overline{[M_\mu(T)]} = 0$ in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$. We refer to the definitions above pertaining to the region μ . Since the leftmost column of μ is column $b_{\zeta_c} \geq c$, the determinant $|M_\mu(T)|$ simplifies to $\tau_1 \dots \tau_{c-1} \det(*)$ where $*$ is the lower right $(\zeta_c + \dots + \zeta_{\lambda_1})$ -square submatrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_c^{<c>} \sqcup N_c & A_{c+1}^{<c>} \sqcup 0 & \dots & A_{\lambda_1}^{<c>} \sqcup 0 \\ A_c^{<c+1>} \sqcup 0 & A_{c+1}^{<c+1>} \sqcup N_{c+1} & \dots & A_{\lambda_1}^{<c+1>} \sqcup 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_c^{<\lambda_1>} \sqcup 0 & A_{c+1}^{<\lambda_1>} \sqcup 0 & \dots & A_{\lambda_1}^{<\lambda_1>} \sqcup N_{\lambda_1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Because $S(T)$ fails to be dominated by $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ in column c , the index c is emphasized over the index b_{ζ_c} .

For $1 \leq j \leq i \leq \lambda_1$, let $N_j^{<i>}$ denote the submatrix of N_j formed by its first ζ_i rows. For each $c+1 \leq i \leq \lambda_1$, the first ζ_i rows of $*$ are contained in its first row of blocks. Subtract these rows from its $(i+1-c)^{th}$ row of blocks to get the matrix

$$*':= \begin{bmatrix} A_c^{<c>} \sqcup N_c & A_{c+1}^{<c>} \sqcup 0 & \dots & A_{\lambda_1}^{<c>} \sqcup 0 \\ 0 \sqcup -N_c^{<c+1>} & 0 \sqcup N_{c+1} & \dots & 0 \sqcup 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 \sqcup -N_c^{<\lambda_1>} & 0 \sqcup 0 & \dots & 0 \sqcup N_{\lambda_1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

We calculate $\det(*)' = \det(*)$ by Laplace expansion on the first ζ_c rows, which form its first row of blocks. Most terms in the expansion vanish. Fix a term such that neither the primary nor complementary minor has a zero column and the primary minor has no repeated columns. Since the complementary minor cannot have a zero column, the $\zeta_c \times \zeta_c$ primary minor must use all of the columns of the blocks $A_c^{<c>}, \dots, A_{\lambda_1}^{<c>}$: These blocks $A_c^{<c>}, \dots, A_{\lambda_1}^{<c>}$ have a total of only $|\mu| = \zeta_c - r + 1$ columns. Since the primary minor does not have repeated columns, the values of $T_c(\bar{\mu})$ that correspond to the $r-1$ columns of N_c that contribute to the primary minor are distinct from the values of $T(\mu)$. Therefore we may define a column tabloid U_c of size ζ_c containing all the values of $T(\mu)$ and these values from $T_c(\bar{\mu})$. Except for the order of its columns, the primary minor is the determinant of the ζ_c -initial submatrix of g specified by the column tabloid U_c . So this primary minor is the monomial v_c of U_c , up to a sign. By the choice of μ , the $\zeta_c - r + 1$ values of $T(\mu)$ are all larger than $Y_\lambda(\pi; r, c)$. Hence at most $r-1$ values in U_c are less than or equal to $Y_\lambda(\pi; r, c)$. In particular $U_c(r) > Y_\lambda(\pi; r, c)$.

Now consider the complementary minor of our fixed summand. We compute this minor by an iterated Laplace expansion analogous to the one in the proof of Lemma 4.2. Begin the iteration by computing this determinant by Laplace expansion on its first ζ_{c+1} rows, which form its first row of blocks. Fix a summand as above. Since the current complementary minor cannot have a zero column, this primary minor must include all of the columns of N_{c+1} . The primary minor's other columns come from the $-N_c^{<c+1>}$ block. Define a column tabloid U_{c+1} of length ζ_{c+1} filled with all the values of $T_{c+1}(\bar{\mu})$ and the values of $T_c(\bar{\mu})$ that correspond to the columns of $-N_c^{<c+1>}$ that contribute to the primary minor. Again the primary minor is the monomial v_{c+1} of U_{c+1} , up to a sign.

Iterate this process. We end up with column tabloids $U_c, U_{c+1}, \dots, U_{\lambda_1}$ of respective lengths $\zeta_c, \zeta_{c+1}, \dots, \zeta_{\lambda_1}$. We find that our fixed nonzero term is the product $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_{c-1} v_c \cdots v_{\lambda_1}$, up to a sign. This is the monomial v of the tabloid U that is formed by the juxtaposition of the column tabloids $T_1, \dots, T_{c-1}, U_c, \dots, U_{\lambda_1}$. But $U \not\leq Y_\lambda(\pi)$, by the observation about $U(r, c) = U_c(r)$ above. Hence its monomial v belongs to the subspace $Z_\lambda(\pi)$ of Γ_λ . Therefore $\bar{v} = 0$ in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$. So all of the terms in the iterated Laplace expansion that are not zero in Γ_λ are in $Z_\lambda(\pi)$. Hence $|\overline{M_\mu(T)}| = 0$. \square

We now show that this result can be used to re-express the monomial of a tableau T which is not π -Demazure in terms of monomials of tabloids $U < T$.

Proposition 5.2. *Let π be a Q -chain. Let T be a tableau of shape λ which is not π -Demazure. If $\bar{\tau} \neq 0$ in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$, then there exist coefficients $a_U = \pm 1$ such that $\bar{\tau} = \sum a_U \bar{v}$, where the sum is over some tabloids U such that $U < T$.*

Proof. Since T is not π -Demazure, there exists a region μ as for Proposition 5.1. Then the relation $\sum \epsilon(\sigma) \bar{\tau}_\sigma = 0$ holds in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$, where the sum runs over all μ -shuffles of T .

If the identity permutation is the only μ -shuffle of T , then this equation states that $\bar{\tau} = 0$ in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$. Otherwise, solve for $\bar{\tau} = \bar{\tau}_{id}$. Consider a non-identity μ -shuffle σ of T . We show $T_\sigma < T$. Let b be the index of the leftmost column of λ such that σ replaces some of the values of $T_b(\mu)$. The replacement values must arrive from later columns of μ . By our choice of μ , each value in $T_b(\mu)$ is strictly larger than all of the values in the later columns of μ . Then in the highest location of column b in which T and T_σ differ, the smaller value is in T_σ . Therefore column b of T_σ precedes T_b , while all columns to its left are unchanged. Thus $T_\sigma < T$. Since μ does not have repeated values, each tabloid T_σ is distinct. Therefore when we sum over tabloids instead of μ -shuffles of T , the coefficients of the monomials remain ± 1 . \square

Now we are ready to prove the spanning part of Theorem 3.8.

Theorem 5.3. *Fix a nonempty $Q \subseteq [n-1]$. Let λ be an n -partition with $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$ and let π be a Q -chain. The monomials of the π -Demazure tableaux of shape λ span the vector space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$.*

Proof. By Theorem 4.6, the space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$ is spanned by the tableau monomials. Given a tableau U , we show its monomial \bar{v} is in the span of the π -Demazure monomials. Suppose that U is not already π -Demazure.

Apply Proposition 5.2 to express \bar{v} as a linear combination of monomials for tabloids preceding U . If any of these tabloids is not a tableau, apply Proposition 4.5 to the largest among them according to the total order \leq and iterate this step. As in Theorem 4.6, this process terminates. We have now expressed \bar{v} as a linear combination of monomials of tableaux preceding U . If any of the tableaux is not π -Demazure, apply Proposition 5.2 to the largest among them and then repeatedly apply Proposition 4.5 to the resulting tabloids. After each iteration of Propositions 5.2 and 4.5, the largest tabloid which is not a π -Demazure tableau precedes that appearing in the previous iteration. Since there are finitely many tabloids of shape λ , this process must terminate. When the process terminates, we have an expression for \bar{v} as a linear combination of π -Demazure monomials. \square

6. Preferred bases and Bruhat cells

The linear independence of tableau monomials for Theorem 3.6 is shown directly in [10] by organizing the leading terms of tableau monomials with respect to an order on the indeterminants x_{ij} for $\mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$. No similarly direct proof for the linear independence part of Theorem 3.8 is known. Instead we assume that our field has characteristic zero and, following [8, 13], we evaluate a linear combination of monomials at some ordered basis to verify that it is nonzero. We analyze these evaluations based on the membership of the corresponding Q -flag in a Bruhat cell or a Schubert variety. So here and in the next section we return to the context of Section 3 and present the standard facts concerning tabloid monomials, Bruhat cells, and Schubert varieties. A statement in these sections is displayed as a “Lemma” if it is needed for Section 8 and as a “Fact” if it is included only for motivation. The n -partition λ plays no role in this section.

Recall that the Q -carrels for an n -tuple are the following $k+1$ sets of positions: the first q_1 positions, the next $q_2 - q_1$ positions, and so on through the last $n - q_k$ positions. Given an ordered basis $f = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n]$ of \mathbb{C}^n in matrix form, the formation of the Q -flag $\Phi_Q(f) = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ can be viewed using these Q -carrels: The vectors from the first Q -carrel of f span V_1 , and for $2 \leq j \leq k$ the vectors from the j^{th} Q -carrel of f extend V_{j-1} to the space V_j . The *pivot* of a nonzero column vector is its last nonzero coordinate.

Definition 6.1. An ordered basis f is Q -preferred if:

1. Within a Q -carrel, the pivots descend from left to right.
2. Each vector $v \in f$ has a value of 1 in its pivot coordinate.
3. All of the coordinate values to the right of a pivot are 0.

The pivots of a Q -preferred basis give information concerning its Q -flag:

Lemma 6.2. Let $f = [v_1, \dots, v_n]$ be a Q -preferred basis with pivot coordinates ρ_1, \dots, ρ_n . For each $1 \leq j \leq k$, define $R_j := \{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_{q_j}\}$. Then $\rho = (R_1, \dots, R_k)$ is a Q -chain. The list (ρ_1, \dots, ρ_n) is the Q -permutation $\bar{\rho}$. The set R_j is the set of possible pivot coordinates for vectors in $V_j := \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{q_j})$.

Proof. By the third property of Q -preferred bases, the ρ_1, \dots, ρ_n are distinct. The first conclusion follows immediately. The condition on the values within the Q -carrels of a Q -permutation follows for (ρ_1, \dots, ρ_n) from the first property of Q -preferred bases; it is clearly $\bar{\rho}$. No nonzero linear combination of vectors with distinct pivot coordinates produces a vector with a new pivot coordinate. \square

A Q -preferred basis f is a distinctive representative for $\Phi_Q(f)$ in the following way:

Lemma 6.3. Let $f = [v_1, \dots, v_n]$ be a Q -preferred basis with pivot coordinates ρ_1, \dots, ρ_n . Fix $1 \leq m \leq n$, and let $1 \leq j \leq k+1$ be minimal such that $m \leq q_j$. Then v_m is the unique vector in $V_j := \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{q_j})$ that has a value of 1 at its pivot coordinate ρ_m and a value of 0 at coordinates $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_{m-1}$.

Proof. Let w be any such vector. Set $u := w - v_m$. Since the pivots within a Q -carrel of f descend from left to right, we have that $\rho_m < \rho_{m+1} < \dots < \rho_{q_j}$. Since w and v_m both have pivot coordinate ρ_m , the vector u has a value of 0 at the coordinates $\rho_{m+1}, \dots, \rho_{q_j}$. Since w and v_m both have a value of 1 at coordinate ρ_m , the vector u has a value of 0 at coordinate ρ_m . Then u is a vector in V_j with a value of 0 at the coordinates $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_{q_j}$. By the preceding lemma, this vector cannot have any other pivot coordinate. Therefore $u = 0$, and so $w = v_m$. \square

Each Q -flag has a unique Q -preferred representative:

Lemma 6.4. The restriction of the map Φ_Q to the set of Q -preferred bases is a bijection to the set \mathcal{Fl}_Q of Q -flags. Hence Lemma 6.2 associates to each Q -flag a unique Q -chain.

Proof. We begin by showing that the restriction of the map Φ_Q is injective. Suppose there are at least two Q -preferred bases. Then $Q \neq \{n\}$, since here the identity matrix depicts the only Q -preferred basis. Let $f_1 = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n]$ and $f_2 = [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n]$ be distinct Q -preferred bases. Suppose that for some $1 \leq j \leq k$, the sets of pivot coordinates of the first q_j vectors of f_1 and of f_2 are different. Let $V_j := \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{q_j})$ and $W_j := \text{span}(w_1, \dots, w_{q_j})$. Let $1 \leq m \leq q_j$ be such that v_m has a pivot coordinate different from those of w_1, \dots, w_{q_j} . By Lemma 6.2, no vector in W_j has the same pivot coordinate as v_m . Hence $v_m \notin W_j$, and so $V_j \neq W_j$. Otherwise the pivot coordinates ρ_1, \dots, ρ_n for f_1 and f_2 are the same. Let $1 \leq m \leq n$ be such that $v_m \neq w_m$ and let $1 \leq j \leq k+1$ be minimal such that $m \leq q_j$. The vectors v_m and w_m both have a value of 1 in their pivot coordinate ρ_m and a value of 0 in the coordinates $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_{m-1}$. By the preceding lemma applied to w_m , we see that $v_m \notin W_j$. So again $V_j \neq W_j$. Hence $\Phi_Q(f_1) \neq \Phi_Q(f_2)$.

We now provide the inverse map: Fix a Q -flag F and choose *any* ordered basis h such that $\Phi_Q(h) = F$. The following elementary column operations on h preserve its Q -flag:

1. Swap two columns within the same Q -carrel of h .
2. Multiply a column of h by a nonzero scalar.
3. Add a multiple of a column of h to a column to its right.

Using these column operations, a Gaussian elimination algorithm can be run on h so that its output f is a Q -preferred basis with $\Phi_Q(f) = F$. We verify that the output is independent of the choice of the basis used to represent F : Suppose two Q -preferred bases f_1 and f_2 can be produced from two representatives h_1 and h_2 for F . Then $\Phi_Q(f_1) = \Phi_Q(h_1) = \Phi_Q(h_2) = \Phi_Q(f_2)$. Since the restriction of Φ_Q to the set of Q -preferred bases is injective, we have $f_1 = f_2$. So this process is a well-defined pre-inverse of the restriction of Φ_Q . If the input to the process is Q -preferred, no action is taken. Hence this function is also a post-inverse of the restriction of Φ_Q to the set of Q -preferred bases. \square

Now we present some facts about Bruhat cells. In Section 3 we associated to each Q -chain π the $n \times n$ permutation matrix s_π . It is easy to see that s_π is Q -preferred when viewed as an ordered basis.

Fact 6.5. *The set of Q -flags can be expressed as the union of Bruhat cells over all Q -chains: $\mathcal{Fl}_Q = \bigcup_{\rho} C(\rho)$.*

Proof. Fix any Q -flag F ; find its Q -preferred basis f as in the proof of Lemma 6.4. Let $\rho = (R_1, \dots, R_k)$ be the Q -chain for f from Lemma 6.2: The Q -chain ρ records the pivots of f . It also records the pivots of the permutation matrix s_ρ . Since the pivots of both descend within each Q -carrel, the pivots of f are the locations of the 1s in s_ρ . It can be seen that $b := fs_\rho^{-1}$ is the matrix obtained by sorting the columns of f so that all of its pivots descend from left to right. So the matrix b is upper triangular. Then $F = \Phi_Q(f) = \Phi_Q(bs_\rho) \in C(\rho)$. \square

Fact 6.6. *Let π, ρ be Q -chains. If $\pi \neq \rho$, then the intersection of Bruhat cells $C(\pi) \cap C(\rho)$ is empty. So for each Q -flag F , the Q -chain π such that $F \in C(\pi)$ is unique.*

Proof. The action of B preserves the pivots of an ordered basis. So the Q -preferred basis for a Q -flag $F \in C(\pi) \cap C(\rho)$ would have the pivots listed in both π and ρ . But $\pi \neq \rho$. \square

Together, these two facts show:

Fact 6.7. *The Bruhat cells $C(\pi)$ for all Q -chains π partition \mathcal{Fl}_Q .*

7. Tabloid monomials, Bruhat cells, and Schubert varieties

Here we present some facts concerning tabloid monomials, Bruhat cells, and Schubert varieties. As in Section 5, fix an n -partition λ such that $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$.

Lemma 7.1. *Let g and h be ordered bases with $\Phi_Q(g) = \Phi_Q(h)$. There exists one $\alpha \neq 0$ such that for all tabloid monomials $\tau \in \Gamma_\lambda$, the equation $\tau(g) = \alpha\tau(h)$ holds.*

Proof. Recall that column c of any tabloid of shape λ specifies a ζ_c -initial minor of h . Since $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$, the sequence of elementary column operations in the proof of Lemma 6.4 that produces the Q -preferred basis f from h is also a sequence of elementary column operations when restricted to any ζ_c -initial submatrix of h . Hence any ζ_c -initial minor of h is a nonzero multiple, say $\kappa_c(h)$, of the same ζ_c -initial minor of f . Then $\tau(h) = \left(\prod_{c=1}^{\lambda_1} \kappa_c(h)\right) \tau(f)$. The valuation $\tau(g)$ also differs by some uniform nonzero scalar multiple from $\tau(f)$ for all tabloid monomials τ . \square

Fix a Q -flag F . We can evaluate the sequence of all tabloid monomials of shape λ at any ordered basis representative for F . By the above lemma, the projective equivalence class of this sequence of valuations does not depend on the choice of representative. In this way we define a map $\Omega_\lambda : \mathcal{Fl}_Q \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^N)$, where N is the number of tabloids of shape λ .

Now fix a Q -chain $\pi = (P_1, \dots, P_k)$. The next four results consider whether the tabloid monomials vanish or not at an ordered basis h when $\Phi_Q(h)$ is in the Bruhat cell $C(\pi)$ or the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$.

Lemma 7.2. *At any ordered basis h with $\Phi_Q(h) \in C(\pi)$, the monomial $\psi_\lambda(\pi)$ of the λ -key $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ does not vanish.*

Proof. By Lemma 6.4 there is a Q -preferred basis f such that $\Phi_Q(f) = \Phi_Q(h)$. There is a $b \in B$ such that $f = bs_\pi$. When the columns of f are sorted so that their pivots are in descending order, we produce an upper triangular matrix with 1s on the diagonal. Since the minor specified by any column of length n is the determinant of f , we see that such a minor is ± 1 . For any $1 \leq j \leq k$, the minor of f specified by a column of $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ of length q_j is the determinant of the q_j -initial submatrix of h with rows given by P_j . The pivot coordinates in the first q_j columns of $f = bs_\pi$ are also given by P_j . Hence when the columns of this q_j -initial submatrix of f are sorted so that these pivots are in descending order, we produce an upper triangular matrix with 1s on the diagonal. Multiplying these minors, we see that the value of $\psi_\lambda(\pi)$ is ± 1 at f . By Lemma 7.1, the value is also nonzero at h . \square

Lemma 7.3. *At any ordered basis h with $\Phi_Q(h) \in X(\pi)$, any tabloid monomial $\tau \in Z_\lambda(\pi)$ vanishes.*

Proof. Let f be the Q -preferred basis such that $\Phi_Q(f) = \Phi_Q(h)$. Then $\Phi_Q(f) \in C(\rho)$ for some $\rho \preceq \pi$. By Lemma 2.2, we have $Y_\lambda(\rho) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$. There is a $b \in B$ such that $f = bs_\rho$. Since $\tau \in Z_\lambda(\pi)$, it is the monomial of a tabloid T such that $T \not\preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$. Find a location $(r, c) \in \lambda$ such that $T(r, c) > Y_\lambda(\pi)[(r, c)]$. The r highest pivots of the first ζ_c columns of $f = bs_\rho$ are the coordinates $Y_\lambda(\rho)[(1, c)]$, $Y_\lambda(\rho)[(2, c)]$, \dots , $Y_\lambda(\rho)[(r, c)]$. These coordinates are at or above the coordinate $Y_\lambda(\pi)[(r, c)]$ since $Y_\lambda(\rho)[(r, c)] \leq Y_\lambda(\pi)[(r, c)]$. On the other hand, the minor in τ specified by column c of T is the determinant of a ζ_c -initial submatrix m

of f whose final $\zeta_c - r + 1$ rows are the rows $T(r, c), T(r+1, c), \dots, T(\zeta_c, c)$ of f . Since $T(r, c) > Y_\lambda(\pi)[(r, c)]$, the r columns of $f = bs_\rho$ with the pivots listed above have zeros in the last $\zeta_c - r + 1$ rows used for τ . This leaves at most $\zeta_c - r$ columns of m which can be nonzero in their last $\zeta_c - r + 1$ rows. Hence $\det(m) = 0$, and so $\tau(f) = 0$. By Lemma 7.1, we also have $\tau(h) = 0$. \square

Fact 7.4. *Suppose $Q(\lambda) = Q$. At any ordered basis h with $\Phi_Q(h) \notin X(\pi)$, there exists a tabloid monomial $\tau \in Z_\lambda(\pi)$ that does not vanish.*

Proof. By Fact 6.7, there is a unique Q -chain ρ such that $\Phi_Q(h) \in C(\rho)$. Since $\Phi_Q(h) \notin X(\pi)$, we have $\rho \not\leq \pi$. Since $Q(\lambda) = Q$, Lemma 2.2 concludes $Y_\lambda(\rho) \not\leq Y_\lambda(\pi)$. Hence $\psi_\lambda(\rho) \in Z_\lambda(\pi)$. By Lemma 7.2, the value of $\psi_\lambda(\rho)$ at h is nonzero. \square

The preceding three statements actually depended only on the Q -flag of an ordered basis, since the vanishing and nonvanishing of tabloid monomials is preserved under the scaling found in Lemma 7.1. So these statements are useful when the tabloid monomials are used as projective coordinates for $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$. The last two statements show:

Fact 7.5. *If $Q(\lambda) = Q$, then the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$ is the zero set in $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ of $Z_\lambda(\pi)$.*

Using the above facts, we can finally show:

Fact 7.6. *If $Q(\lambda) = Q$, then the sequence of all tabloid monomials of shape λ distinguishes Q -flags. That is, the map Ω_λ is injective and faithfully parameterizes $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$.*

Proof. Let F, G be Q -flags. Find the Q -preferred bases f, g of F, G . Let π, ρ be the Q -chains such that $F \in C(\pi)$ and $G \in C(\rho)$. Suppose $\pi \not\leq \rho$. Since $Q(\lambda) = Q$, Lemma 2.2 concludes $Y_\lambda(\pi) \not\leq Y_\lambda(\rho)$. So the monomial $\psi_\lambda(\pi)$ is in $Z_\lambda(\rho)$. By Lemmas 7.2 and 7.3, the monomial $\psi_\lambda(\pi)$ is nonzero at f and zero at g . If $\pi \prec \rho$, apply the argument above to $\rho \not\leq \pi$.

Otherwise $\pi = \rho$, and so f and g have the same list of pivots $\bar{\pi} = (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_n)$. From the proof of Lemma 7.2, the monomial $\psi_\lambda(\pi)$ is either 1 at both f and g or -1 at both. Write $\pi = (P_1, \dots, P_k)$. If $P_j = \{1, 2, \dots, q_j\}$ for all $1 \leq j \leq k$, then $\bar{\pi}$ is the identity permutation. Here the identity matrix depicts the only Q -preferred basis, and so there is only one Q -flag. So suppose there is some $1 \leq j \leq k$ such that $P_j \neq \{1, 2, \dots, q_j\}$. Then in a Q -preferred basis, there exists a matrix entry unconstrained by the three Q -preferred properties. Now suppose $F \neq G$. Then $f \neq g$. Find an entry (r, c) where $f \neq g$. It must lie above the pivot in column c , so $r < \pi_c$. Let $1 \leq \ell \leq k$ be minimal such that $\pi_c \in P_\ell$. One of f or g is nonzero at entry (r, c) . By the third property of Q -preferred bases, the column with pivot coordinate r lies in a later Q -carrel than does column c . Hence $r \notin P_\ell$. Let T be the tabloid obtained from $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ by replacing one of its columns $Y(P_\ell)$ with the column $Y(P_\ell \setminus \{\pi_c\} \cup \{r\}) \prec Y(P_\ell)$. Following a proof similar to that of Lemma 7.2, it can be seen that the evaluation of its monomial τ at f and g gives (up to sign) their (r, c) entries. Therefore the two valuations of the pair of monomials $(\psi_\lambda(\pi), \tau)$ at f and at g are not multiples of each other. \square

8. Linear independence of the Demazure monomials

The n -partition λ such that $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$ remains fixed. The objective of this section is to prove:

Theorem 8.1. *Fix a nonempty $Q \subseteq [n-1]$. Let λ be an n -partition such that $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$ and let π be a Q -chain. The monomials of the π -Demazure tableaux of shape λ are linearly independent in the vector space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$.*

A particular application of Theorem 8.1 gives the linear independence of the tableau monomials for Theorem 3.6:

Corollary 8.2. *Let λ be an n -partition. The monomials of the semistandard tableaux of shape λ form a basis of the vector space Γ_λ .*

Proof. Take $Q := Q(\lambda)$. Let π_0 be the maximal Q -chain of subsets $P_j := \{n - q_j + 1, n - q_j + 2, \dots, n\}$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$. It can be seen that every tabloid of shape λ is dominated by the λ -key $Y_\lambda(\pi_0)$ in the partial order \preceq . So every tableau is π_0 -Demazure. Here, the subspace $Z_\lambda(\pi_0)$ of Γ_λ is $\{0\}$. So we have $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi_0) = \Gamma_\lambda / Z_\lambda(\pi_0) = \Gamma_\lambda$. \square

Fix a Q -chain π from now on. Let ξ be any polynomial in Γ_λ . Suppose we can find an ordered basis f such that its Q -flag $\Phi_Q(f)$ lies in the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$ and $\xi(f) \neq 0$. By Lemma 7.3, the latter property implies that $\xi \notin Z_\lambda(\pi)$. Then the residue $\bar{\xi}$ in $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi) = \Gamma_\lambda / Z_\lambda(\pi)$ is nonzero. Since $C(\pi) \subseteq X(\pi)$, this observation implies that the theorem follows from:

Proposition 8.3. *Let π be a Q -chain. Let T_1, \dots, T_ℓ be π -Demazure tableaux of shape λ . For any nonzero coefficients a_1, \dots, a_ℓ , there is some ordered basis f with $\Phi_Q(f)$ in the Bruhat cell $C(\pi)$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^{\ell} a_i \tau_i(f) \neq 0$.*

We will prove this proposition using induction on the number of columns of λ .

Before proving this proposition, we now elaborate on the “efficiency” claim from Section 3. Let N denote the number of tabloids of shape λ . Consider the map from the set GL_n to \mathbb{C}^N given by the evaluation of the sequence of all tabloid monomials of shape λ . The coordinatization $\Omega_\lambda : \mathcal{F}\ell_Q \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^N)$ of Section 7 was given by observing that the set of matrix representatives for a given flag maps to a unique projective equivalence class in \mathbb{C}^N . This coordinatization is inefficient: By the spanning Theorem 4.6, the coordinatization of $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ in \mathbb{C}^N up to scalar multiples is contained in a subspace V that is parameterized by the coordinates corresponding to the tableau monomials. By Proposition 8.3 applied to $\pi := \pi_0$ as in the proof of Corollary 8.2, this subspace V is the minimal subspace that contains the image of $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$. So we can actually coordinatize $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ with $\mathbb{P}(V) \subset \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^N)$. Let M denote the number of tableau monomials of shape λ . Then $V \cong \mathbb{C}^M$ and one may more efficiently coordinatize $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ in $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^M)$ by evaluating only the sequence of tableau monomials.

But this new coordinatization is inefficient for a proper Schubert variety $X(\pi)$. By Theorem 5.3, the coordinatization of $X(\pi)$ in \mathbb{C}^M up to scalar multiples is contained in a subspace $V(\pi)$ that is parameterized by the coordinates corresponding to the π -Demazure monomials. By Proposition 8.3, this subspace $V(\pi)$ is the minimal subspace that contains the image of $X(\pi)$. So we can actually coordinatize $X(\pi)$ with $\mathbb{P}(V(\pi)) \subset \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^M)$. Let $M(\pi)$ denote the number of π -Demazure monomials of shape λ . Then $V(\pi) \cong \mathbb{C}^{M(\pi)}$, and one may more efficiently coordinatize $X(\pi)$ in $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{C}^{M(\pi)})$ by evaluating only the sequence of π -Demazure monomials.

Now we assume our field has characteristic zero. The corollary to the following proposition is used as the last step in the proof of Proposition 8.3. Here the limit in the set of ordered bases of \mathbb{C}^n is found with respect to the usual metric on the n^2 entries of ordered bases when they are viewed as $n \times n$ complex matrices.

Proposition 8.4. *Let π be a Q -chain. Let $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ and use the reflection σ_{ij} to define $\rho := \sigma_{ij}\pi$. Let F be a Q -flag in the Bruhat cell $C(\rho)$. If $\rho \prec \pi$, then there is a path $\beta(t)$ in the set of ordered bases of \mathbb{C}^n with $\Phi_Q(\beta(t)) \in C(\pi)$ for $0 < t < \frac{1}{2}$ such that $F = \Phi_Q\left(\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \beta(t)\right)$.*

Proof. Let s_π be the $n \times n$ permutation matrix associated to π as in Section 3. Construct a path $\gamma(t)$ in the space of $n \times n$ matrices by altering s_π as follows: Let c_i and c_j be the column indices such that entries (i, c_i) and (j, c_j) of s_π are 1. Since $\rho \neq \pi$, columns c_i and c_j are in different Q -carrels of s_π . And since $\rho \prec \pi$, we have $c_j < c_i$. The submatrix at rows (i, j) and columns (c_j, c_i) of s_π is $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Change these entries to

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1-t & t \\ t & 1-t \end{bmatrix}.$$

For $0 < t < \frac{1}{2}$, compute the Q -preferred basis of $\gamma(t)$ by subtracting $\frac{1-t}{t}$ times column c_j from column c_i and re-scaling. Then we see that $\Phi_Q(\gamma(t))$ is still in $C(\pi)$. However, the limit $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \gamma(t)$ is the permutation matrix formed from s_π by switching columns c_i and c_j . Up to a reordering of columns within the affected Q -carrels, this is the permutation matrix s_ρ for the Q -chain ρ . So the Q -flag for this limit is $\Phi_Q(s_\rho)$. Let $b \in B$ be such that $F = \Phi_Q(bs_\rho)$. Here F is also $\Phi_Q\left(b \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \gamma(t)\right)$. Define $\beta(t) := b\gamma(t)$. Then we have $\Phi_Q(\beta(t)) \in C(\pi)$ for $0 < t < \frac{1}{2}$. Note that $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} b\gamma(t) = b \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \gamma(t)$, since the entries in this product by b are linear combinations of the original matrix entries. Finally we have $\Phi_Q\left(\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \beta(t)\right) = \Phi_Q\left(b \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \gamma(t)\right) = F$. \square

The following corollary relates the vanishing of a polynomial in Γ_λ on the Bruhat cell $C(\pi)$ to its vanishing on the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$. Its proof uses the fact that the application of a polynomial from $\mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$ commutes with forming a limit in the $n \times n$ complex matrices.

Corollary 8.5. *Let π be a Q -chain. Let f be an ordered basis with $\Phi_Q(f) \in X(\pi)$ and fix a polynomial $\xi \in \Gamma_\lambda$. If $\xi(h) = 0$ for every ordered basis h with $\Phi_Q(h) \in C(\pi)$, then $\xi(f) = 0$.*

Proof. Since $\Phi_Q(f) \in X(\pi)$, we have $\Phi_Q(f) \in C(\rho)$ for some Q -chain $\rho \preceq \pi$. The conclusion is trivial if $\rho = \pi$, so suppose that $\rho \prec \pi$. By Lemma 2.1, there exist $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ such that $\pi_1 := \sigma_{ij}\pi$ satisfies $\rho \preceq \pi_1 \prec \pi$. Since there are finitely many Q -chains, we can iterate Lemma 2.1 until we have a sequence of reflected Q -chains $\rho = \pi_m \prec \pi_{m-1} \prec \dots \prec \pi_1 \prec \pi =: \pi_0$ for some $m > 0$. Let ℓ run from 0 to $m-1$ and iterate the following: Let $h_{\ell+1}$ be any ordered basis with $\Phi_Q(h_{\ell+1}) \in C(\pi_{\ell+1})$. Denote this

Q -flag by F . Here the proposition constructed a path $\beta(t)$ with $\Phi_Q(\beta(t)) \in C(\pi_\ell)$ for $0 < t < \frac{1}{2}$ such that $F = \Phi_Q\left(\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \beta(t)\right)$. By induction: For every ordered basis h_ℓ with $\Phi_Q(h_\ell) \in C(\pi_\ell)$, we had $\xi(h_\ell) = 0$. Since $\xi \in \mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$, we have $\xi\left(\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \beta(t)\right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \xi(\beta(t)) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} 0 = 0$. By Lemma 7.1 applied to the ordered bases $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \beta(t)$ and $h_{\ell+1}$ for F , we have $\xi(h_{\ell+1}) = 0$. When beginning the $\ell = m - 1$ iteration, take $h_{\ell+1} := f$. \square

Now we are prepared to prove Proposition 8.3:

Proof of Proposition 8.3. The base case for our induction on the number of columns of λ is when every column of λ has length n , perhaps vacuously. Here the only tableau consists of the columns $Y([n])$. It is π -Demazure. Its monomial is a nonnegative power of the determinant, which is nonzero. So in this case the proposition holds.

Suppose λ has at least one column of length less than n . As for Lemma 2.5, let λ' denote the partition obtained from λ by deleting the rightmost column of its shape. Note that $Q(\lambda') \subseteq Q$. Suppose by induction that for any Q -chain ρ and linear combination ξ of ρ -Demazure monomials of shape λ' , there is some ordered basis f with $\Phi_Q(f) \in C(\rho)$ such that $\xi(f) \neq 0$.

Write $\pi = (P_1, P_2, \dots, P_k)$. Let $1 \leq h \leq k$ be minimal such that $q_h \in Q(\lambda)$. Examine the rightmost columns of the tableaux T_1, \dots, T_ℓ and identify a minimal column among these with respect to the order \preceq . Suppose m of the tableaux share this minimal column, which has length q_h . Reindex the tableaux so that T_1, \dots, T_m have this rightmost column. We now form a Q -chain $(R_1, \dots, R_k) =: \rho$ from this minimal column and π in such a way that ρ is small enough to have $\rho \preceq \pi$ and large enough to have $Y_\lambda(\rho) \succeq S(T_i)$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$. For $1 \leq j \leq h$, take R_j to be the set of the q_j smallest tableau values in this minimal column. So this minimal column is $Y(R_h)$. By Lemma 2.4 this column is also the rightmost column of $S(T_i)$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$. Since $S(T_i) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$, we have $Y(R_h) \preceq Y(P_h)$. This implies that $Y(R_j) \preceq Y(P_j)$ for any $1 \leq j \leq h$.

For $h+1 \leq j \leq k$, form R_j by evolving P_j using R_h as follows: List the elements $r_1 < \dots < r_{q_h}$ of R_h in increasing order. As t runs from 1 to q_h , successively replace the smallest element of P_j that is larger than or equal to r_t with the element r_t . Such an element exists since $P_j \supset P_h$ and $Y(P_h) \succeq Y(R_h)$. Visualize this replacement using the column $Y(P_j)$: by our replacement rule, replacing this value in $Y(P_j)$ by r_t in the same position preserves the property that the filling increases down the column. Define R_j to be the set resulting from the q_h iteration. Then the column $Y(R_j)$ is produced from $Y(P_j)$ by decreasing some of its values to values from R_h without reordering. So we have $Y(R_j) \preceq Y(P_j)$. For $h+1 \leq j \leq q_k$, we can see that $R_{j-1} \subset R_j$ as follows: Let $r \in R_{j-1}$. If $r \in R_h$, then $r \in R_j$. On the other hand if $r \notin R_h$, then $r \in P_{j-1} \subset P_j$. Both R_{j-1} and R_j were formed by replacing elements of P_{j-1} and P_j respectively with elements of the same set R_h . The element r was not replaced when R_{j-1} was formed from P_{j-1} , so it also was not replaced when R_j was formed from P_j . Then $\rho := (R_1, R_2, \dots, R_k)$ is a Q -chain, and $\rho \preceq \pi$.

Fix $m+1 \leq i \leq \ell$. The rightmost column of $Y_\lambda(\rho)$ is $Y(R_h)$, which was minimal among the rightmost columns of T_1, \dots, T_ℓ . Since T_i does not share this minimal rightmost column, we can see that $T_i \not\preceq Y_\lambda(\rho)$. So by definition we have $\tau_{m+1}, \dots, \tau_\ell \in Z_\lambda(\rho)$. Then by Lemma 7.3, at any ordered basis f with $\Phi_Q(f) \in X(\rho)$ we have $\sum_{i=1}^\ell a_i \tau_i(f) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \tau_i(f)$.

We want to show that each of T_1, \dots, T_m is ρ -Demazure. Fix $1 \leq i \leq m$. We know that $S(T_i) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$. Fix a location $(b, c) \in \lambda$. From the construction of ρ , the value $Y_\lambda(\rho)[b, c]$ is $Y_\lambda(\pi)[b, c]$ or else a value from R_h . Suppose $Y_\lambda(\rho)[b, c] = Y_\lambda(\pi)[b, c]$. Since $S(T_i) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$, we have $S(T_i)[b, c] \leq Y_\lambda(\rho)[b, c]$. Now suppose $Y_\lambda(\rho)[b, c]$ is some value $r \in R_h$. By Lemma 2.4, the value r appears in column c of $S(T_i)$. Let $1 \leq d \leq \zeta_c$ denote the row index such that $r = S(T_i)[d, c]$. Since $S(T_i) \preceq Y_\lambda(\pi)$, we have $Y_\lambda(\pi)[d, c] \geq r$. But from the construction of ρ , the value $Y_\lambda(\pi)[b, c]$ is the smallest value in its column larger than or equal to r . Since the filling $Y_\lambda(\pi)$ increases down each column, we have $b \leq d$. Hence $S(T_i)[b, c] \leq S(T_i)[d, c] = r = Y_\lambda(\rho)[b, c]$. Therefore $S(T_i) \preceq Y_\lambda(\rho)$ in both cases. So the tableaux T_1, \dots, T_m are ρ -Demazure. Then by Lemma 2.7 the corresponding tableaux T'_1, \dots, T'_m of shape λ' are ρ -Demazure. By the inductive hypothesis, there is an ordered basis f with $\Phi_Q(f) \in C(\rho)$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \tau'_i(f) \neq 0$.

The rightmost column of $Y_\lambda(\rho)$ is $Y(R_h)$. Hence the minor specified by $Y(R_h)$ is a factor of the monomial $\psi_\lambda(\rho)$. By Lemma 7.2, the value of $\psi_\lambda(\rho)$ at f is nonzero. Hence the minor specified by $Y(R_h)$ has some value $\alpha \neq 0$ at f . Therefore the valuation $\sum_{i=1}^\ell a_i \tau_i(f) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \tau_i(f) = \alpha \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \tau'_i(f)$. Thus we have $\sum_{i=1}^\ell a_i \tau_i(f) \neq 0$, where $\Phi_Q(f) \in C(\rho)$.

For the sake of contradiction, suppose that for every ordered basis h with $\Phi_Q(h) \in C(\pi)$ we have $\sum_{i=1}^\ell a_i \tau_i(h) = 0$. By design we have $\rho \preceq \pi$, and so $\Phi_Q(f) \in X(\pi)$. Then by Corollary 8.5 we also have $\sum_{i=1}^\ell a_i \tau_i(f) = 0$, a contradiction. \square

9. Summation formula for Demazure polynomials

Let H be the abelian subgroup of B consisting of its diagonal matrices $\text{diag}(y_1^{-1}, \dots, y_n^{-1})$. The group H acts on ordered bases from the left. This induces an action on our polynomial subspace Γ_λ of $\mathbb{C}[x_{ij}]$: For a monomial $\tau \in \Gamma_\lambda$, an element $h \in H$, and an ordered basis f of \mathbb{C}^n in matrix form, one has $h \cdot \tau(f) := \tau(h^{-1}f)$. Since τ is a product of minors and the multiplication here by h^{-1} scales the rows of f , we see that $\mathbb{C}\tau$ is H -invariant. Given a tableau T , let c_i be the number of values in T equal to i . Then the character of H acting on $\mathbb{C}\tau$ is $y^T := \prod_{i=1}^n y_i^{c_i}$.

Now fix a Q -chain π . The subspace $Z_\lambda(\pi)$ is H -invariant. The character of the induced representation on $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi) := \Gamma_\lambda / Z_\lambda(\pi)$ follows from Theorem 3.8:

Corollary 9.1. *The character of H on $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$ is $\sum y^T$, where the sum runs over all π -Demazure tableaux of shape λ .*

This polynomial is the *Demazure polynomial* of [12]. This terminology will be justified in the appendix, where we note that $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)^*$ is a Demazure module for B . Given that the scanning tableau of a tableau T is the right key of T , this polynomial is also the “key polynomial” of Lascoux and Schützenberger [14, Theorem 1].

10. Appendix: Contemporary terminology

Here we provide a dictionary for relating the objects of this paper to the contemporary algebraic geometry literature. We also identify the character from Section 9 using the representation theory of GL_n . Continue to use the definitions from Section 9. Here we require an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero; we use \mathbb{C} .

Our subgroup H of diagonal matrices in GL_n is called the *torus*, and our subgroup B of upper triangular matrices in GL_n is called the *Borel* subgroup. Fix a nonempty $Q \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ and set $k := |Q|$. Let E be the Q -flag of subspaces $V_j = \text{span}(\{e_i | i \leq q_j\})$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$. The action of GL_n on ordered bases of \mathbb{C}^n induces an action on the set $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ of Q -flags. Let P be the “parabolic” subgroup of GL_n that stabilizes E . Note that B stabilizes E , so $B \subseteq P$. Let (v_1, \dots, v_n) be an ordered basis and let $f := [v_1, \dots, v_n] \in GL_n$ be the corresponding invertible matrix. Let F be any Q -flag. If $\Phi_Q(f) = F$, then $f \cdot E = F$. So Lemma 6.4 implies that the action of GL_n on $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ is transitive. From the definition of P , we see that $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$ is isomorphic to the coset space GL_n/P as a GL_n -set. The three operations from the proof of Lemma 6.4 generate the right action of P on GL_n when GL_n is considered as the set of all ordered bases for \mathbb{C}^n . That lemma found a preferred representative in GL_n for each coset in GL_n/P . So the map Φ_Q can be used to describe an isomorphism from GL_n/P to $\mathcal{F}\ell_Q$.

Let $\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}, \mathfrak{b}$, and \mathfrak{p} denote the Lie algebras of GL_n, H, B , and P respectively. The Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} is reductive. Let ϕ_1, \dots, ϕ_n denote the basis of \mathfrak{h}^* such that $\phi_i(h)$ is the entry of h in position (i, i) for any $h \in \mathfrak{h}$. Equip \mathfrak{h}^* with the inner product for which ϕ_1, \dots, ϕ_n is an orthonormal basis. For each $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ set $\alpha_j := \phi_j - \phi_{j+1}$ and $\omega_j := \sum_{i=1}^j \phi_i$. For the semisimple part of \mathfrak{g} , the $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}$ depict the positive simple roots and the $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n-1}$ depict the fundamental weights. Set $\omega_n := \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_i$. This weight is orthogonal to $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}$; it corresponds to the center of \mathfrak{g} . Set $J := [n-1] \setminus Q$. It can be seen that \mathfrak{p} is the direct sum of \mathfrak{b} and the root subspaces for the roots in the negative span of $\{\alpha_j | j \in J\}$. For each weight $\mu \in \mathfrak{h}^*$, there is a corresponding character $\exp(\mu)$ of the torus H . For $1 \leq i \leq n$ set $x_i := \exp(\phi_i)$. Let λ be an n -partition. For $1 \leq i \leq n$, set $a_i := \lambda_i - \lambda_{i+1}$; this is the number of columns of length i in the shape of λ . Then we have $Q(\lambda) = \{1 \leq i \leq n-1 | a_i \neq 0\}$. Use λ to also denote the weight $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \phi_i = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \omega_i$. Let V_λ denote an irreducible representation of GL_n with highest weight λ .

The contragredient representation of H on Γ_λ defined in Section 9 extends to a representation of GL_n : Since a monomial τ of a tableau T is a product of minors, it can be seen that $g \cdot \tau$ is again a polynomial in Γ_λ . Here τ is a weight vector of Γ_λ of weight $\sum_{i=1}^n -c_i \phi_i$.

Now fix an n -partition λ such that $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$. Let ϵ be the minimal Q -chain of subsets $E_j := \{1, \dots, q_j\}$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$. Notate the λ -key monomial $\psi_\lambda(\epsilon)$ with ψ . It can be seen that for all ordered bases f and any $p \in P$, we have $\psi(fp) = \theta_\lambda(p)\psi(f)$ for a certain scalar $\theta_\lambda(p)$. Since the function θ_λ on P is multiplicative, it defines a character of P that is realized in $GL(\mathbb{C}\psi)$. Define an equivalence relation \sim on $GL_n \times \mathbb{C}\psi$ by setting $(g, z) \sim (gp, \theta_\lambda(p)z\psi)$ for any $g \in GL_n$ and $p \in P$ and $z \in \mathbb{C}$. Define a line bundle \mathcal{L}_λ on GL_n/P to be $(GL_n \times \mathbb{C}\psi) / \sim$. There is a contragredient representation of GL_n on its space of global sections $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$: For $\xi \in \Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$, a matrix $g \in GL_n$, and coset $f \in GL_n/P$, we define $g \cdot \xi(f) := \xi(g^{-1}f)$. The Borel-Weil theorem says [2, Section 4] that this representation is irreducible with lowest weight $-\lambda$.

For the monomial τ of any tabloid T , we more generally have $\tau(fp) = \theta_\lambda(p)\tau(f)$ for any $f \in GL_n$ and $p \in P$. This is because the right multiplication of ordered bases by p is generated by the column operations

of Lemma 6.4, while the filling of T specifies the rows used to form minors for τ . So τ can be used to define a section of \mathcal{L}_λ that sends the coset fP of GL_n/P to the equivalence class $[f, \tau(f)\psi]$ of $(GL_n \times \mathbb{C}\psi)/\sim$. Hence Γ_λ can be viewed as a submodule of the global section space $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$ of this bundle. Since $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$ is irreducible, this entire space is realized by Γ_λ . It can be seen that the section defined by ψ is a lowest weight vector of $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$ for the lowest weight $-\lambda$. Here Theorem 3.6 says that the (semistandard) tableau monomials describe a basis for $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$. Moreover, this basis is a weight basis. Since the lowest weight of $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$ is $-\lambda$, the highest weight of $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)^*$ is λ . Hence $\Gamma_\lambda^* \cong V_\lambda$. Since we have allowed λ to have columns of length n , we can have positive powers of the determinant in our characters. Hence each of the irreducible polynomial representations of GL_n can be realized with some Γ_λ^* (for all Q). If suitable notation were introduced, our treatment could also handle negative powers of the determinant. Then each of the irreducible rational representations of GL_n could be realized with some Γ_λ^* .

The Weyl group W of the semisimple part of \mathfrak{g} is generated by the simple reflections s_1, \dots, s_{n-1} corresponding to the simple roots. Using the depiction of the simple roots in \mathfrak{h}^* above, we can depict the action of a simple reflection on the ϕ basis as follows: For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ we have $s_i \cdot \phi_i = \phi_{i+1}$ and $s_i \cdot \phi_{i+1} = \phi_i$, with $s_i \cdot \phi_j = \phi_j$ for all other j . By considering only the subscripts here, we can model the action of W with the group S_n of permutations of $[n]$. Corresponding to the simple reflection s_i , the transposition $(i, i+1)$ swaps the values i and $i+1$ in an n -sequence of values from $[n]$. Given a permutation $\pi \in S_n$, write the result of $\pi \cdot (1, 2, \dots, n)$ in one-row form as $(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n)$. Then π models the element $w \in W$ such that $w \cdot \phi_i = \phi_{\pi_i}$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

The length of an element $w \in W$ is the smallest number of simple reflections needed to express w . Let W_J denote the subgroup of W generated by the reflections s_j for $j \in J$. Since $Q(\lambda) \subseteq Q$, it can be seen that the group W_J stabilizes λ . Each coset of W/W_J has a unique minimal length representative. Let $W^J \subseteq W$ denote the set of such representatives. It can be seen that each Q -permutation (Section 2) models some $w \in W^J$ and any $w \in W^J$ is correspondingly modeled by some Q -permutation. So the map sending a Q -chain π to the Q -permutation $\bar{\pi}$ can be viewed as a bijection from the set of Q -chains to W^J . Under this bijection, our partial order \preceq on Q -chains agrees [1, Theorem 2.6.3] with the Bruhat order on W restricted to W^J . The Weyl group can also be depicted in GL_n relative to H as the group of $n \times n$ permutation matrices. Here the Q -chain π is represented by the matrix s_π from Section 3.

Given $w \in W$, let $v_{w\lambda}$ be a weight vector in V_λ of weight $w\lambda$. Let $D_\lambda(w)$ denote the Demazure B -module $\mathbb{C}[B] \cdot v_{w\lambda}$. Since W_J stabilizes λ , the module $D_\lambda(w)$ only depends on the coset of w in W/W_J . So we can name this Demazure module $D_\lambda(\pi)$, where π is the Q -chain corresponding to the representative of this coset in W^J .

Using Q -preferred bases, it can be seen that the flags $\varphi(\pi)$ for Q -chains π are exactly the H -invariant Q -flags. The Bruhat cells are the B -orbits of GL_n/P . Corollary 8.5 can be strengthened as follows: Given a Q -chain π , the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$ is the closure of the Bruhat cell $C(\pi)$ in the Zariski topology on GL_n/P . This is proved over any algebraically closed field in e.g. [11, Section 10.6], but since GL_n is “split” that proof works here over any field [6]. If one accepts this substitute for Corollary 8.5, then every result in this paper other than Proposition 8.4 is valid over any field.

Now fix a Q -chain π . Let $\mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi)$ denote the restriction of \mathcal{L}_λ to the Schubert variety $X(\pi)$. The global section space $\Gamma(X(\pi), \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi))$ of this bundle is not a GL_n -module since $X(\pi)$ is not GL_n -invariant in GL_n/P . But $X(\pi)$ is B -invariant, and so the restriction of the GL_n representation on $\Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$ to the subgroup B induces a representation of B on $\Gamma(X(\pi), \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi))$. It is known [3] that its dual is isomorphic to the Demazure module defined above: $\Gamma(X(\pi), \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi))^* \cong D_\lambda(\pi)$. The section defined by the monomial $\psi_\lambda(\epsilon)$ is again a lowest weight vector of $\Gamma(X(\pi), \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi))$ for the lowest weight $-\lambda$. The section defined by the monomial $\psi_\lambda(\pi)$ is a highest weight vector of $\Gamma(X(\pi), \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi))$ for the highest weight $-\lambda$, where $w \in W$ is modeled by the Q -permutation $\bar{\pi}$. Analogously, the vector space $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi) := \Gamma_\lambda/Z_\lambda(\pi)$ is not a GL_n -module since $Z_\lambda(\pi)$ is not GL_n -invariant in Γ_λ . But one can see that the action of B on a tabloid monomial produces a combination of monomials for tabloids with larger values. Then $Z_\lambda(\pi)$ is B -invariant, and so the restriction of the GL_n representation on Γ_λ to the subgroup B induces a representation of B on $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$. Fact 7.5 and the isomorphism $\Gamma_\lambda \cong \Gamma(GL_n/P, \mathcal{L}_\lambda)$ above imply that these B -modules $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)$ and $\Gamma(X(\pi), \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi))$ are isomorphic. Here Theorem 3.8 says that the π -Demazure monomials describe a basis for $\Gamma(X(\pi), \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\pi))$. Moreover, this basis is a weight basis. By this isomorphism, we have $\Gamma_\lambda(\pi)^* \cong D_\lambda(\pi)$. Corollary 9.1 gives the character of $D_\lambda(\pi)$ as the Demazure polynomial $\sum x^T$, where the sum runs over all π -Demazure tableaux of shape λ . This implies that the dimension of $D_\lambda(\pi)$ is the number of π -Demazure tableaux of shape λ . See the appendix of [12] for more information concerning the concrete description of the coordinatized Demazure modules of $B \subset GL_n$.

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